


# Town of Lovettsville

JUNE 2011

MEMO TO: Town of Lovettsville Water Customers  
Town of Lovettsville Property Owners

FROM: Elaine Walker, Mayor 

SUBJECT: Consumer Confidence Report for 2010

Enclosed you will find the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the Town of Lovettsville for the Calendar Year 2010. Once again, all of our water tests met or exceeded all Federal and State standards for drinking water for the year. Information about our wells is being provided to you in this report, as well as data pertaining to chemicals that were added and minerals that are present in our drinking water. No bacterium was detected in any of our wells. I am pleased to recognize the operators of our water system and continue to thank them for their excellent service to our Town. We are privileged to have Loudoun Water (formerly known as Loudoun County Sanitation Authority) operate our Water System and our Wastewater Treatment Facility.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is authorized by Congress to enforce the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, by regulating water systems for public health protection and by requiring the establishment of water standards. The 1996 Amendments require all water suppliers to issue a Water Quality Report, known as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to our water consumers on an annual basis. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has the responsibility for enforcing the Federal Water Quality Standards in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Town of Lovettsville owns all of the wells, treatment and storage facilities, and distribution lines which supplies water to your residence or business. The Town is fortunate to have had proffers that enhanced our earlier water system from the developers of Town Center, New Town Meadows and Kingsridge communities. I would be happy to share the history of the old and the new wells and storage facilities with you.

If you should have any questions regarding this report, or if you wish additional information, please contact our Operator, Chris Keplinger at 540-822-4536. If you would care to discuss this CCR, please call me or our Town Manager, Keith Markel at 540-822-5788.

Thank you for your time and attention to the CCR for 2010.

*The German Settlement*



# **Town of Lovettsville**

## **Annual Drinking Water Report: 2010**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for calendar year 2010 is designed to inform you about the quality of your drinking water as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The report contains details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the federal and state standards administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **WHERE DOES THE TOWN'S WATER COME FROM?**

The Town of Lovettsville produces drinking water from six groundwater wells located within the Town limits.

## PROTECTING OUR WATER SUPPLY

The Virginia Department of Health conducted a source water assessment in 2002. Like most wells, the Town's wells were determined to be of high susceptibility to contamination using the criteria developed by the state in its approved Source Water Assessment Program. The assessment report is available by contacting the Town of Lovettsville at (540) 822-5788.

Protecting our water supply is everyone's responsibility. You can help do your part by following these simple recommendations:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sewer system.
- Dispose of chemicals, paints, fuels and pesticides properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center. For a schedule of hazardous material collection dates contact the Loudoun County Department of Solid Waste Management at 703-777-0100.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Please contact the Town of Lovettsville Main Office at (540)822-5788.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Lovettsville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in individual homes and businesses. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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## Water Quality Data Table

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old.

*Contaminates in the Town's drinking water are routinely monitored according to Federal and State regulations. While most of the following results are from 2010, we are allowed to monitor some contaminants less than once per year. Where that is the case, the most recent results are reported.*

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range</u>		<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
				<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.1	0.7	1.4	2010	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	4	1.7	6.6	2010	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.096	0.021	0.096	2010	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.26	0.13	0.26	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	6.37	ND	6.37	2010	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0	ND	0	2010	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0	ND	0	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0	ND	0	2010	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA		2010	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.1	ND	2.1	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	6.5	4.1	6.5	2008	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	0	ND	0	2010	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u># Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.185	2010	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4.7	2010	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

## DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are provided to help you better understand the various terms and abbreviations found in this report.

**ppm** – part per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb** – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**pCi/L** – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**positive samples/month** – Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive

**NA** – not applicable

**ND** – not detected

**NR** – Monitoring not required, but recommended.

**MCLG** – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL** – Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**TT** – Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**AL** – Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Variances and Exemptions** – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**MRDLG** – Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**MRDL** – Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MNR** – Monitored Not Regulated

**MPL** – State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

### For more information please contact:

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